

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 ALEXAN 00798 051849Z

ACTION NODS-00

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /001 W

-----120144 051852Z /50

Z600

OO RUEHC

DE RUEHEGA #0798 2171825

ZNY SSSSS ZZH ZZ Y

O 051805Z AUG 77

FM AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC NIACT IMMEDIATE 1094

S E C R E T ALEXANDRIA 0798

NODIS

DEPT PASS SECRETARY

FROM AMBASSADOR IN ALEXANDRIA

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3

TAGS: OVIP (VANCE, CYRUS), EG, US

SUBJECT: REPORT FOR SADAT--DAMASCUS CONVERSATIONS

REF: SECTO 08051

1. MET WITH FAHMY 1800 LOCAL TODAY TO CONVEY POINTS
REFTEL. HE HAD ALREADY SEEN NEWS REPORTS FROM DAMASCUS
BUT EXPRESSED APPRECIATION FOR YOUR THOUGHTFULNESS IN
SENDING MESSAGE. HE UNDERTOOK CONVEY IT TO SADAT LATER
TODAY.

2. RE SYRIAN REACTION TO IDEA OF FORMAL WORKING GROUP
IN NEW YORK, FAHMY CLAIMED HE HAD PREDICTED TO YOU THAT
ASAD'S REACTIN WOULD BE NEGATIVE BUT THAT KHADDAM WOULD
ATTEND UNGA AND WOULD WANT TO REMAIN IN CLOSE CONTACT
WITH US. HE AGREED THAT A DIFFERENT WAY MUST NOW BE

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 ALEXAN 00798 051849Z

FOUND TO DESCRIBE THE CONTACTS YOU PROPOSE TO CONDUCT
IN NEW YORK. PICKING UP YOUR POINT THAT SYRIAN
REACTION PARTLY RESULTED FROM EGYPTIAN FAILURE CONSULT
WITH SYRIANS ABOUT PROPOSAL, FAHMY WRYLY OBSERVED THAT
WHAT CAME OUT OF THE PRESS CONFERENCE WAS NOT AN
EGYPTIAN PROPOSAL. SADAT'S PRESS CONFERENCE STATEMENT
THAT HE HAD EARLIER URGED PRESIDENT CARTER TO SET UP

A WORKING GROUP UNDER YOUR DIRECTION WAS ALWAYS INTENDED TO MEAN AN AMERICAN WORKING GROUP WHICH WOULD DRAW UP THE HOPED FOR US VISUALIZATION. WHEN YOU PICKED UP SADAT'S REFERENCE AND SPOKE OF FONMINS' MEETING WITH YOU IN NEW YORK, THE FAT WAS IN THE FIRE. IT WAS NOT WHAT SADAT HAD INTENDED, BUT HE COULD NOT REDRESS SITUATION WITHOUT EMBARRASSMENT TO BOTH OF YOU. HE HAD, THEREFORE, TACITLY ACCEPTED IT, ALTHOUGH LATER THAT EVENING HE HAD CALLED FAHMY TO DISCUSS WHAT MIGHT BE DONE. THEY HAD AGREED THE IDEA SHOULD BE ALLOWED TO STAND. HOWEVER, SEVERAL NEWSMEN HAD ON BACKGROUND BASIS BEEN BRIEFED ON WHAT HAD HAPPENED. IN TELLING ME THIS, FAHMY MADE IT CLEAR GOE CONTINUES ACCEPT IDEA.

3. ON THE MATTER OF A UNIFIED DELEGATION, FAHMY REITERATED THE GOE VIEW THAT ASAD SUPPORTS A UNIFIED ARAB DELEGATION CONCEPT MAINLY TO OBSTRUCT EGYPTIAN FLEXIBILITY IN CONDUCTING PEACE TALKS. ASAD, FAHMY PREDICTED, WILL PLAY THE PALESTINIANS AND THE JORDANIANS AGAINST EACH OTHER IN ORDER TO INSURE THAT EGYPT "WILL NOT MOVE FASTER THAN HE WISHES TO MOVE."

4. FAHMY ALSO ASKED THAT I ADVISE YOU THAT SADAT AND HE HAD MET WITH ARAFAT YESTERDAY. HE, FAHMY, HAD MADE THE PROPOSAL YOU AND HE HAD WORKED OUT, BUT HAD CALLED IT AN EGYPTIAN PROPOSAL. TO HIS SURPRISE, ARAFAT HAD
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 03 ALEXAN 00798 051849Z

STATED THAT HE HAD HAD A SIMILAR SUGGESTION FROM THE SAUDIS, MADE AT USG BEHEST. THE SUGGESTION PASSED THROUGH THE SAUDIS SIMPLY ASKED PLO TO ACCEPT UN RESOLUTION 242 AND ENTER A RESERVATION REGARDING ITS VIEWS ON THE REFUGEE ISSUE. THE EGYPTIAN PROPOSAL, ARAFAT HAD NOTED, GOES BEYOND WHAT THE SAUDIS HAD SUGGESTED IN SPECIFICALLY STATING THAT THE PLO ACCEPTS THE RIGHT OF ALL STATES IN THE AREA TO LIVE IN PEACE AND SECURITY WITHIN RECOGNIZED BORDERS. FAHMY NOTED IT WOULD HAVE BEEN HELPFUL HAD HE KNOWN THAT WE HAD AEARLIER DISCUSSED THE CONCEPT WITH THE SAUDIS. AS IT WAS, THE DISCREPANCY HAD BEEN SOMEWHAT EMBARRASSING FOR HIM. I POINTED OUT TO HIM THAT OUR MESSAGE ON THE FAHD VISIT HAD INDICATED WE HAD MENTIONED SUCH A CONCEPT TO FAHD. I COULD ONLY ASSUME THAT FAHD HAD SUBSEQUENTLY MADE SUCH A SUGGESTION TO ARAFAT. I WAS NOT AWARE OF ANY RECENT MESSAGES TO THE SAUDIS ON THE SUBJECT. HAD THERE BEEN ANY, I WAS SURE YOU WOULD HAVE MENTIONED THEM TO HIM. YOU DO APPRECIATE HIS WILLINGNESS TO HELP IN CONNECTION WITH THE PLO AND CERTAINLY HAVE NO DESIRE TO CAUSE HIM ANY EMBARRASSMENT. FAHMY ACKNOWLEDGED THAT HE MUST HAVE MISSED THAT POINT

IN OUR REPORT ON THE FAHD VISIT AND AGREED THAT IT MAY
HAVE PROMPTED THE SAUDI SUGGESTION TO ARAFAT. IN ANY
CASE, ARAFAT HAD TOLD HIM HE NEEDED FORTY-EIGHT HOURS
TO CONSIDER THE PROPOSAL AND HAD THEREAFTER IMMEDIATELY
EMPLANED FOR SAUDI ARABIA. FAHMY EXPECTS HIM BACK IN
NEXT FEW DAYS AND UNDERTOOK LET US KNOW SOON AS HE HAS
ARAFAT'S REPLY.

CHASE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSION, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION, POLITICAL SITUATION, CAT-C, NO TEXT
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 05-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977ALEXAN00798
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X3
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: P840084-0995, N770004-0610
Format: TEL
From: ALEXANDRIA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770895/aaaadbzk.tel
Line Count: 124
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: bc097061-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NODS
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: NODIS
Reference: 77 SECTO 8051
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19-Jan-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1704174
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REPORT FOR SADAT--DAMASCUS CONVERSATIONS
TAGS: OVIP, EG, US, SY, (VANCE, CYRUS R), (SADAT, ANWAR), (VANCE, CYRUS)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/bc097061-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009